THE

GLEMSFORD URBAN DISTRICT.

In the Administrative County of West Suffolk and the Sudbury Union.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1905.

Prepared in accordance with the Regulations of the Local Government Board and of the West Suffolk County Council.

Population 1891, 2375 ; 1901, 1975. Area in Acres 2246. Number of persons per acre 0.9.

Inhabited houses 456, Average Number of persons per house 4.3.

Geological formation : boulder clay with intercalating beds of drift sands and gravel, Chalk underlying on highest ground at a depth of about 130 ft., less in the valleys. Superficially alluvium.

The Parish of Glemsford, which formed part of the Melford Rural District, obtained Urban Powers on the 1st October, 1896 and became a separate district. This is the Ninth Annual Report to the Glemsford Urban District Council.

Vital Statistics.

Births. The number of births registered during the year was 41, equivalent to a birth-rate of 20.7 per 1,000 of the population. The number is below the average when compared with the birth-rates during the previous seven years, which were as follows :

	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Births	62	71	47	50	40	46	46	41
Birth-rate	26.0	29.8	19.7	25.4	20.3	23.2	23.2	20.7

Deaths. The number of deaths from all causes registered during the year was 28, to which have to be added 4 deaths of persons belonging to the district, which occurred in the Workhouse and St. Leonards Hospital Sudbury, making the total deaths 32 equivalent to a death rate of 16.2 per 1000 of the population. The deaths and death rates during the previous seven years were as follows.

	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Deaths	31	33	30	50	30	37	26	32
Death-rate	13.0	13.9	12.6	25.4	14.2	18.2	13.1	16.2

Infantile Mortality. There were 4 deaths under one year of age equivalent to 97.7 per 1000 of births registered.

The following is the record for the last seven years :

	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Deaths of children under one year	7	7	7	18	7	7	6	4
Rate per 1000 of births registered	112.9	98.5	149.0	360.0	163.1	152.1	130.4	97.7

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases. None.

Deaths from other Causes. There was one death from Phthisis, two from Cancer, three from Bronchitis and Pneumonia, five from Heart Diseases, fourteen of the deaths were of persons over the age of 65.

Infectious Diseases Notification. The number of cases notified during the year was 14, and consisted of Diphtheria three, Membranous Croup one, Erysipelas ten.

The district has been fortunate in having escaped being afflicted by the prevalence of any Zymotic disease during the year. Early in December the appearance of three cases of Diphtheria among school children caused some alarm, but happily did not extend, nor could the infection be traced to any positive insanitary cause. Antitoxin was supplied and used in each case and all made a good recovery.

Erysipelas was much more prevalent than usual in the district, it was spread over the year and most of the cases were facial.

Water Supply. The public pumps have yielded a constant supply during the year, with the exception of the one at Angel Lane, which was dry all the summer.

One sample of water from a private well was analysed and found to be impure.

The new water works are now completed and connections are being made. The district has acquired a most excellent and abundant supply of pure water and are to be congratulated with the Council, on this pleasing and benefical result. The works have been carefully and economically carried out to completion, and show very good value for the outlay entailed.

The following particulars of the Waterworks are now recorded by the Surveyor in his report :

The Council are now in a position to supply pure water from the new waterworks, which have been carried to a successful conclusion during the year. There have been laid 1828 yards of 3in. main, 500 yards of 4in. main, 2465 yards of 3in. main, and 66 yards of 1¼ galvanized steam tubing. The cost of supplying the pipes, fixing and laying them, together with the hydrants, sluice valves, and other special pipes was approximately £1160. The water which naturally rises in a 520 ft. bore tube to some 12 to 15 inches above the engine house floor, is pumped into a tank on a brick tower against an average static head of 200 feet The motive power is an oil engine developing 11 B.H.P. when running at normal speed. The pumps are of the three-throw vertical ram type, capable of delivering 6,400 gallons per hour when running at 40 revolutions per minute. When pumping at the normal rate the water in the bore tube is lowered some 12 to 15 feet. The total cost of the engine and pumps was £400 and of the Pumping Station nearly £200. The length of the rising main (which is also used as a distributing main) from the pumps to the tank is 1766 yards. The tower on which the tank is placed is a circular structure built in white brick, strengthened with six buttresses and is 45 feet high. The buttresses, bands, window arches and cornice are faced with Leicestershire red bricks. The interior of the tower, in which at present there are three floors with provision for a fourth, will be utilized by the Council for store rooms and offices The cost of the Tower was approximately £400. It is surmounted by a circular steel tank 20ft. 3in. diameter, having a capacity of 30,000 gallons. It is covered by a domed roof to the top of which is fixed a flagstaff. The cost of the tank was £266.

At two points in the district there is a fixed pillar fountain for the convenience of the tenants of a few cottages which lie in those directions, beyond the limits of the supply. Water is thereby brought nearer to these cottages by some 300 yards in one case, and 200 yards in the other.

H. L. TAYLOR, *Surveyor.*

General Sanitation.

1. Two foul ditches have been cleaned out.
2. One short 6in sewer, 23 yards long, taking the drainage from 3 houses, has been laid down.
3. The outlet of the sewer in George Lane has been put in proper repair.
4. Four new houses have been built, and inspected.
5. Two new water closets have been erected
6. Four privy cesspools have been converted to pail closets.
7. Two new pail closets have been erected.
8. Number of Inspections 247.
9. Nuisances remedied by written notice 14
10. ,, ,, verbal ,, 43.

H. L. TAYLOR, *Sanitary Inspector.*

Systematic as well as special inspections have been made throughout the District.

Factories and Workshops. No complaints have been received from H.M. Inspector of factories and workshops.

There are four factory and twenty-four workshops, including eight bakehouses. These were found satisfactory, and kept in accordance with their respective regulations and orders. Any sanitary defects to which attention was called were at once remedied.

List of outworkers were received and the dwellings when inspected were found satisfacfory.

Tabular statements, according to the form supplied by the Local Government Board, of sickness and mortality within the district, are appended to the official reports. Also a tabular statement according to the form required by the West Suffolk County Council.

J. SINCLAIR HOLDEN, M.D.
Medical Officer of Health.